

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07

EUR-12 NEA-10 TRSE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 /090 R

DRAFTED BY IO/IBC/SC:JDFOX:MFW

APPROVED BY IO - DRTOUSSAINT

IO - PWYMAN

O/IBC - RVHE

----- 125575

O R 162112Z NOV 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, AORG

SUBJECT: FIFTH COMMITTEE: QUESTION OF THE CONTINUATION OF
THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

1. IN CONSIDERING THE QUESTION OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE
JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (JIU), WE EXPECT FIFTH COMMITTEE
ACTION TO CENTER ON THE ACABQ DRAFT STATUTE FOR THE JIU
INCLUDED AS AN ANNEX TO THE REPORT OF THE ADVISORY COMMIT-
TEE (A/31/325). WITH THE IMPORTANT EXCEPTIONS NOTED BELOW,
USDEL SHOULD SUPPORT THE ACABQ DRAFT. DRAWING IN A CON-
STRUCTIVE MANNER ON THE JIU DRAFT (A/31/89) AND THE DRAFT
OF THE SYG (A/31/75/ADD.1), THE ACABQ DRAFT STATUTE PRO-
VIDES A GOOD BASIS FOR ESTABLISHING THE JIU ON A PERMANENT
BASIS.

2. DURING DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM, USDEL SHOULD INDICATE
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STRONG U.S. SUPPORT FOR CONTINUING AND IMPROVING THE JIU

AS A MAJOR INSTRUMENT FOR STRENGTHENING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN CARRYING OUT ITS PROGRAM OBJECTIVES. USDEL SHOULD INDICATE OUR PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR THE ROLE THAT THE JIU CAN PLAY IN REGARD TO EXTERNAL EVALUATION. IN MAKING THIS POINT, USDEL MAY AS APPROPRIATE DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING:

A. AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF PROGRAM BUDGETING IS EFFECTIVE MONITORING OF PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND APPRAISAL OF PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

B. A MECHANISM IS NEEDED TO FURNISH THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANS AND MEMBER STATES WITH INFORMATION ON PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND EXECUTION AND ON PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES.

C. SUCH A MECHANISM WOULD MEASURE AND REPORT UPON THE EXTENT TO WHICH PROGRAM OBJECTIVES ARE ACHIEVED, THE IMPACT OF PROGRAMS IN RELATION TO THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OF WHICH THEY ARE A PART, AND THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF THE UN BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PROGRAM EXECUTION.

D. SUCH A MECHANISM SHOULD BE COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT OF THE SECRETARIATS OF THE UN AGENCIES.

E. SUCH A MECHANISM SHOULD HAVE BROAD AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE AGENCIES, AND MEMBER GOVERNMENTS IN GENERAL, WITH INFORMATION RESULTING FROM SELECTIVE REVIEWS OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH MAJOR PROGRAMS ARE ACHIEVING THEIR STATED OBJECTIVES IN AN EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND ECONOMICAL MANNER.

F. THE SELECTIVE REVIEWS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A TIME-PHASED PLAN THAT WOULD, BASED ON AN AGREED ASSIGNMENT OF PRIORITIES, PROVIDE FOR CONTINUOUS SYSTEMATIC COVERAGE OVER THE FULL RANGE OF ALL SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS.

G. THE REPORTS FOR EVALUATION PURPOSES SHOULD INCLUDE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CORRECTIVE MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE EXECUTION OF PROGRAMS CONSISTENT WITH THE CHARTERS ESTABLISHING UN AGENCIES AND WITH GOVERNING BOARD POLICIES.

H. IN CONDUCTING THE PROCESS WE ARE SUGGESTING, THE JIU COULD BE GUIDED BY EVALUATION STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES SUCH AS THE USDEL CIRCULATED TO THE WORKING GROUP ON UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM AND BUDGET MACHINERY (A/AC.173/L.2).

I. PROVISION SHOULD BE MADE FOR SYSTEMATIC FOLLOW-UP REPORTING ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS.

J. EVEN THE FULL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION PROCESS THAT WE ARE SUGGESTING WOULD NOT RPT. NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR THE NECESSARY INTERNAL EVALUATION RESPONSIBILI-

TIES OF THE EXECUTIVE HEADS OF THE UN ORGANIZATIONS. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE EXTERNAL EVALUATION COULD ASSIST IN IMPROVING THESE INTERNAL PROCEDURES BY CONDUCTING COMPARATIVE STUDIES THROUGHOUT THE SYSTEM.

K. WE ARE NOT RPT. NOT TALKING ABOUT A DECISION-MAKING PROCESS. RATHER, WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A PROCESS TO ASSIST RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING BY THE APPROPRIATE INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES.

L. THE PROCESS WE ARE SUGGESTING WOULD NOT RPT. NOT INFRINGE ON NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING REGARDING THE CONTENT OF PROGRAMS OR THE PRIORITIES THAT ARE ASSIGNED. RATHER, WE ARE SUGGESTING A MEANS TO CHECK ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH AGREED PROGRAMS AND PRIORITIES ARE EXECUTED IN THE MOST EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND ECONOMICAL MANNER.

M. A CAPACITY FOR PROVIDING MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WITH OBJECTIVE AND SYSTEMATIC REPORTS ON PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION COULD STRENGTHEN CONFIDENCE IN INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS OF THE SYSTEM AND IN THE SYSTEM AS A WHOLE.

3. THE MOST IMPORTANT CHANGE THAT USDEL SHOULD SEEK IN THE ACABQ DRAFT STATUTE CONCERNS ARTICLE 5.2. IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOURTH LINE, USDEL SHOULD SEEK TO ADD THE WORDS QUOTE AND AT ITS OWN INITIATIVE UNQUOTE BEFORE THE COMMA FOLLOWING QUOTE BODIES UNQUOTE AND, IN THE FIFTH LINE, TO DELETE THE WORDS QUOTE AT THE REQUEST OF THE EXECUTIVE HEADS. UNQUOTE. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THE JIU COULD MOST EFFECTIVELY ASSIST INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES IN FULFILLING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR EXTERNAL EVALUATION IF IT WERE ABLE TO EXERCISE IT OWN DISCRETION IN PERFORMING SELECTIVE REVIEWS OF PROGRAM EXECUTION.

4. ANOTHER IMPORTANT AMENDMENT CONCERNS ARTICLE 20. USDEL SHOULD SEEK TO REPLACE THE SECOND SENTENCE BY THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE THE UNIT SHALL SUBMIT ITS BUDGET ESTIMATES TO ACC FOR INITIAL REVIEW. THE CHAIRMAN OF ACC SHALL TRANSMIT THE ESTIMATES, TOGETHER WITH THE COMMENTS OF

ACC, TO ACABQ. THE PROPOSED BUDGET, TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT THEREON BY ACABQ, SHALL THEN BE SUBMITTED TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL. THE UNIT SHALL BE INVITED TO BE REPRESENTED AT DISCUSSIONS OF ITS BUDGET AT ACC, ACABQ AND THE GA OF THE UNITED NATIONS. UNQUOTE COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT TO

SUPPORT THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE JIU FROM THE SECRETARIAT. THIS AMENDMENT WOULD PROVIDE THAT THE UNIT'S OWN BUDGET

ESTIMATES WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE GA FOR CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL, WHILE STILL ALLOWING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, THE ACC AND THE ACABQ TO COMMENT ON THEM AND ASSURE THAT THEY ARE JUSTIFIED.

5. USDEL SHOULD SEEK TO AMEND ARTICLE 12 OF THE ACABQ DRAFT BY ADDING THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE AT THE END: QUOTE THE UNIT MAY ALSO PREPARE SUCH A REPORT ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE. UNQUOTE COMMENT: ASSURING THAT THE UNIT WOULD BE FREE TO EXERCISE ITS OWN DISCRETION REGARDING FOLLOW-UP REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD HELP TO ASSURE THAT THE APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNIT WOULD BE TAKEN MORE SERIOUSLY.

6. WE WOULD SUGGEST REWRITING ARTICLE 3.1 OF THE ACABQ DRAFT ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: QUOTE THE APPOINTMENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSPECTORS SHALL BE MADE IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER: (A) THE PRESIDENT OF THE GA SHALL, COMMENCING WITH THE 31ST SESSION OF THE GA AND AS REQUIRED THEREAFTER, DRAW UP, WITH DUE REGARD TO THE NEED FOR EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND CONTINUITY IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNIT, A LIST OF COUNTRIES THAT WOULD BE REQUESTED TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES; (B) THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SHALL REQUEST EACH OF THE COUNTRIES SELECTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE GA TO NOMINATE A CANDIDATE, OR PREFERABLY A PANEL OF CANDIDATES, FOR AN INSPECTOR'S POST. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ACC AND THE ACABQ, SHALL APPOINT AN INSPECTOR FROM EACH OF THE DESIGNATED COUNTRIES. UNQUOTE COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT THIS AMENDMENT WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT THE UNIT REPRESENTS THE INTERESTS OF THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. ALSO, BY NOT CALLING FOR A CONFIRMATION OF THEIR CHOICE BY THE GA, OUR SUGGESTED AMENDMENT SEEKS TO AVOID HAVING THE SELECTION OF INSPECTORS BECOME POLITICIZED. HOWEVER, IF USDEL BELIEVES THAT USE OF THE ACABQ LANGUAGE WOULD PROVIDE THE BEST CHANCE FOR AVOIDING A REQUIREMENT FOR A ROTATION OF GOVERNMENTS WITH NATIONALS SERVING ON THE JIU, USDEL SHOULD NOT PROPOSE THE SUGGESTED AMENDMENT.

WE COULD NOT SUPPORT A ROTATION SCHEME THAT PERIODICALLY
WOULD RESULT IN NO U.S. NATIONAL SERVING ON THE JIU.

7. WE NOTE THAT THE DRAFT STATUTE, ARTICLE 19 IN PARTI-
CULAR, INCLUDES NO PROVISION EXPLICITLY AUTHORIZING THE
UNIT TO EMPLOY SUCH EXPERTS OR CONSULTANTS AND AUXILIARY
STAFF AS IT DEEMS NECESSARY. WE ASSUME THAT THE ABSENCE
OF SUCH A PROVISION WOULD NOT PRECLUDE THE USE OF SUCH
EXPERTS OR CONSULTANTS AND AUXILIARY STAFF WHICH WE BE-
LIEVE WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT MEANS FOR THE UNIT TO FULFILL
ITS EXTERNAL EVALUATION FUNCTION.

8. USDEL SHOULD EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF AMENDING
ARTICLE 18 BY ADDING AT THE END OF THE FIRST SENTENCE THE
FOLLOWING WORDS: QUOTE WHO MAY BE RE-ELECTED. UNQUOTE
COMMENT: PRESENT PRACTICE CALLS FOR THE ANNUAL ROTATION
OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP AMONG JIU MEMBERS. WE BELIEVE THE
JIU SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO KEEP A CHAIRMAN IN OFFICE
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LONGER IN ORDER TO PROVIDE GREATER LEADERSHIP AND
COHERENCE IN JIU OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT A
MATTER THAT SHOULD BE PURSUED AT THE RISK OF OTHER MORE
IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE281587
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JDFOX:MFW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760427-0770
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761143/aaaablbp.tel
Line Count: 252
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <13 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIFTH COMMITTEE: QUESTION OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT
TAGS: AORG, UN
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006